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MARCH 10, 1958

INSTRUCTIONS *to Persons intending to emigrate, as to the domestic Articles they should take with them; the kind of Provisions they should lay in; and their Conduct on board Ship, and during the Journey up the Country: by* CAPT. J. C. HALE, *who sailed from Portsmouth, in May,* 1832, *as Superintendent of the Ship England, to Quebec; from whence he conducted a considerable number of the Passengers, who had emigrated from* WISBOROUGH GREEN, *Sussex, up the St. Lawrence and the Lakes, and afterwards over land to* NELSONVILLE, *near Athens, in the Ohio Territory.*

To an Emigrant, being a family Man. *Canada.*

When you have made up your mind to emigrate, you will do well to prepare yourself after the following manner. First. In collecting up your goods for your voyage, select such things, only, as are of the utmost use, and must be had, of necessity: leaving behind you, all cumbrous articles of furniture; because such things will not only be an incumbrance to you, but will put you to more expence than, it is presumed, you are either inclined to bear, or can afford. Your culinary articles deserve the first attention: because they are always wanted. One large, and one small saucepan, iron; and a block tin tureen, if you have them, is sufficient: and in packing up, put as many little articles as you can inside of them, to save room, such as tea-spoons, pepper box, salt-cellars, snuffers, &c. these are valuable; and will cost you dearer in Canada: a round tin candle box, or a wooden salt box, is a very useful article, as, when hung up to the ship's side, it is not only out of the way, but will always be handy, to hold your knives and forks, spoons, &c., which you should always put by, the moment they are done with, and not lay down, lest you should lose them, by the ship's rolling about; and, when cleaning them, take out one at a time, and return it to the box, the moment it is done; so you will not lose them, nor will they be stolen; and always, if you remove your box for this purpose, hang it on something; a fork, for instance, stuck in the ship's side, one side of your berth, or wherever else you may happen to be. For that purpose, a small gimblet, a few hooks and nails, are very necessary. Remember you are in a ship, constantly in motion, and therefore, you should make your children begin in time, to hang up, or otherwise carefully place in your berth, whatever they may use, as soon as it is done with, and never lay any thing down on the deck, to be left; or you may expect to lose it, in some way or other. Take as little crockery ware as possible: tin

ware is much better; but take no more than you absolutely want, so as to make one article serve two or three purposes. Crockery is cheap, where you are going; but all metallic wares are dear. A large tin bottle with a handle, of two or three gallons, such as you see in shops to put oil in, but flat on one side is very useful, as it will do to receive your water in, and it is less liable to be lost in such an article as this, than a keg; nor will you waste so much: if it has a top, with a small hinge, so that it can be shut over the moment it is done with, the better, as a cork is apt to be lost. Poker, tongs, and shovels, if you have them, you had better dispose of, as you will not want them, wood fires being always used there: if you had a small dutch oven, you will find it of the greatest use, also a small trevet, to hang on the bars of the grate, when cooking, on board the ship. The oven should not be larger than sufficient to cook a slice of bacon, say, 9 inches long. A quart tin pot, with a flat side, and a hook to hang on the bar, is the most handy thing you can have to boil a little water in; your baking pans will serve for dishes, and *all these things, mind, in packing, will contain some little nicknack or other inside of them.* Packing up in the *smallest space* possible, is one of the most important things you have to look to: for, if you are going far up the country, you will find the expence of luggage a heavy tax on your little stock of money, from which you must not draw one single farthing, after you have embarked, without the greatest necessity.

I am not speaking much out of bounds, when I say, to an emigrant; that, a shilling in his possession, in North America, is almost as valuable to him, there, as a pound is here: you must make shift, wherever you can, making up your mind to bear with hardships, and roughs, and which the fruits of your carefulness will amply repay you for, hereafter. If you have any wooden bowls and trenchers, take them rather than plates.

I now come to the valuable article of clothing. Preserve as much woollen clothing as you can; and be careful to have out the worst you have, for the sea voyage; as *cleanliness;* and not show, is what is required on board. Take care of your smock frocks; they are a capital article, and will cost you dear in Canada; also of your worsted stockings &c. and let the wife take as much worsted as she can get, with knitting needles; and let her make you a cap, to wear at sea, out of any old piece of cloth she may have to spare; as your hat, even if it is an old one, will be valuable; and you will have to pay dear, if you buy one: also, be careful of your *high shoes;* put *them away:* you will get nothing like them there, and make any *old shoes* do for the sea voyage. All articles of flannel are valuable; and take plenty of soap; and be

saving of your water, at sea; that the wife may have a little, now and then, to wash a little for the children; for you will have none allowed for this purpose.

A feather bed may be got in America as good for a dollar as for £1. here.

The next article is your bedding; feather beds, which are very dear in England, are very cheap in America, so that, if you have a good one, it 's better to sell it; and buy a second hand mattress for the sea voyage; and the money will be well laid out, if applied to the purchase of good blankets; of which you cannot have too many; or, make a straw or chaff stuffing do. The *bed tick* itself, is valuable. A feather bed is very likely to be spoiled on board: 3 or 4 blankets laid on each other, are far better on board ship; and females are not so apt to take cold from them, as a bed. It will be hard laying at first, but that must be borne with: it is only for a while, and remember! the object is to *save bulk*, and have every thing *snug* and *convenient*. The more you have to travel with, the heavier the expence; and in the boats that carry you up the country, they will weigh every little thing you have; even the child's chair; and I have known a cradle cost more for carriage, than it cost when new. If you happen to have a gun, take it, you can hang it up to the beam, over your berth, and take powder and shot. You must task the generosity of your friends, when leaving them, all you can, for any such articles as I have mentioned, and that they can spare: and your wife should take care to provide herself with plenty of good needles; and a pair or two of real good scissors, Next I come to

TOOLS, &c. &c.

Whether you are a mechanic or an agriculturist: take all the good tools of your profession, that you have with you, because, what *you* have here, will be far superior to any you can get there in quality, unless, you pay very dear indeed for them. Saws of all kinds are particularly valuable, but carry *no article of wood* with you, that you can possibly do without; and let all your packages be as cheap, and *small* as possible: on every package taken on board, in the London Docks, there is a charge of

If you have any carpeting, if old, no matter, take it; it is useful to put under your bed; and for wrapping next your berth, on board. What I have said, about keeping every thing close, and compact, will be found worthy of attention, when you consider, that for 4 grown persons, or equal to it, at the rate of two children for an adult, the small space of six feet square only, is allowed, and about three feet in height. As soon as you are settled on board, drive in, in regular order, and not one *here* and *there*, several hooks, and nails, to

hang up your mess articles; and get them arranged, in the proper places, so that your wife, and children, may become used to it, before the ship gets into bad weather; and insist upon this being done, regularly, by setting the example yourself: for, recollect, the greatest part of the wife's house business on shore, will fall on you, when at sea. Take two or three straps of leather, about an inch broad, and nail them up to the ship's side, in the beam over your head, if you have an upper berth, which is the most desirable, with small nails, at about an inch apart, to hang up any thing you are not using; nothing must be left about, if you wish not to lose them.

PROVISIONS.

This is the most serious thing you have to attend to. I recommend you to take no other animal food, than good bacon, particularly if you are a countryman, and accustomed to it, and which, by the quantity, may be had very cheap, and calculate your passage for 60 *days*, to be on the right side; and I think, that, at the rate of half a pound a day, for a grown person, is enough, taking two children, big and little, for one. Biscuit at the same rate; the allowance appears small, but recollect, you are not hard at work, and must study economy. A jar of pickled onions, is a good and wholesome thing; but if you must have some other meat than bacon, take a keg of tripe, in the same proportion, pickled. The pickle washes easily out of it, and it is far nicer, and more fresh, and palatable, than ship's salt beef, which, to persons who are not accustomed to it, is generally, very unpleasant. Let oatmeal be a principal article with you, as it is wholesome for your children, as well as yourselves, and it is very useful in sickness, If you can afford it, buy a few cases of portable soup. With regard to other articles, sugar; barley, to make broth; butter, not exceeding one ounce per day each; cheese, the same. It must be left to your choice; and, if you can spare a shilling or two, bring a small bottle of essence of peppermint, as you will find it very useful. But do not spend your money in buying spirits, and be particular not to give the children *too much to eat at once*, such as a whole biscuit, with butter, as they are apt to leave it, or throw it away, which causes waste, and which you must avoid, and never allow, but must punish them, if they do so, by giving them short allowance for a day, which is better than beating them, and will make them more careful in future. Studying, as you constantly must, care, economy, and regularity; as it is a family man I am talking to, (for I trouble not my head with single men, they must take care of themselves, they have nothing else to do), I shall not say much about the price, and quality, of your small stores: such as sugar, &c.;

as your wife and self, will better manage that between you, calculating always *for* 60 *days*; and a few carraway seeds, peppermint drops, or a piece or two of gingerbread, will be found very useful, when the children are a little qualmish. If you are a country-man, perhaps you may be able to get your meat in your own neighbourhood, of better quality than in London, as also your butter, and cheese, and if you choose to take a few eggs, they will, if fresh, keep very well in salt for a month, or more, packed with *the small ends down*. Now let me suppose the following, to be a scale of provisions for the voyage, and it is such as I have found to answer well. Any variations in it must be left to the taste or inclination of the emigrant himself.

	s	d
30 lbs. of bacon, at 6d.....	15	0
30 lbs. of tripe, at 6d.....	15	0
30 lbs. of good biscuit,.....	5	0
5 lbs. of butter, at 1s.....	5	0
1 lb. of tea,.....	5	0
8 lbs of sugar, at 6d.....	4	0
1 gallon of oatmeal.....	2	6
20 lbs. of flour.....	5	0
Barley, pepper, and mustard, &c.	3	6
£3	0	0

I have not here allowed for potatoes, or pickles, nor cheese, and which, if you choose to take, you must have by reducing your quantity of tripe, or bacon, for as I allow ½lb. each per day, or 1 lb. each alternate day, you can very well do; a pound of solid meat being more than a prudent man, who is not at labour, will permit himself to consume. I suppose your family to consist of yourself, wife and four children. This will count four adults, and in providing for four, you have ample scope, and it is not probable, the wife and children, will require so much animal food as yourself, and indeed, if they wish for it, to govern yourself, with just economy, it must not be permitted: by attending to that first, I trust you will find your £12. spin out very comfortably. I shall now offer you a word of advice, for your government on board the ship; by attending to which, you will contribute much towards your own comfort, and the preservation of your health. And first:

CLEANLINESS.

This is of the very greatest importance; and fortunate it is for a man at sea, with his family, that he has an English wife, with whom cleanliness, is a predominate virtue. It is a custom on board ship, to wash down the decks every morning: therefore rise early, and if you have any boys, of 10 or 12 say,

start them up also, and join in the operation of washing the deck. The air and exercise, will benefit you, and the sailors will take it kindly of you, and you will find your advantage in it, by the good offices they will do you, in return for your voluntary assistance, such as helping you in getting to your baggage, and in getting your water, and assisting the wife with lines &c. &c. in hanging up her clothes, after washing: make the boys, and set the example yourself, scour themselves with salt water, (you cannot spare fresh,) every morning, and never permit this to be neglected, be the weather fair or foul. It will not wash you clean, as you cannot use soap with it, but it will refresh you. There is lately a soap invented, for washing with sea water, and I am now proving its effects by trial, and if it answers well, I shall give notice where it may be got: and whenever the weather will permit, do not neglect to bathe the children; this you must do in the large tub used for receiving the water they wash the decks with; my small fry were very numerous, and I had much trouble to get them to it, but, with these little folks, a piece of ginger [illegible] wonders, and I took advantage of it; and I hope [illegible] able to do the same. Immediately after breakfas[illegible] recommend you to take on deck, if the weather [illegible] mit,) drive the young ones on deck, and let them [illegible] in the air, unless they are old enough to be employed: [illegible] case, they can assist in cleaning the space before your berth, which you must never neglect, and it will be a source of respectability to you, to have *your* place noted, as the cleanest in the ship; and, where there is ambition among the passengers, sufficient to do this, the 'tween decks of a ship is a truly comfortable and cheerful place. By attending to this, you will be free from that dreadful pestilence, lice, and also will prevent the small pox from getting among you, and which I have never seen, but where filth and dirt prevailed; be careful to make the children comb their heads well, and if boys are able to work a little, do not let them lie idle about the decks, but keep them in exercise, such as helping the sailors in holding their work, when making mats, and knotting rope yarn, which they will thereby learn to be of use to you afterwards; and always give the sailors a pull on the rope, when you can be useful by so doing; you will be a gainer by it in the end. By attending to this, I had the pleasure to land 160 souls, without one case of disease, or sickness, of any sort. Many ships are kept after their arrival, several days, in consequence of their dirty state; whereas we were released at once, and proceeded on our journey, while the others were in a kind of imprisonment, and expending those stores which should have served them throughout the trip and thereby caused them much expence. Let it be your

pride, that your conduct shall be that of a sober, and respectable man; treating the captain of the ship, and his officers with respect; it may be in his power to befriend you much, on your arrival: for you will gain his esteem, and you will have the advantage of a good recommendation, should any thing turn up on the spot to suit you. Let your example to your children, be, such as a father's should be, never swearing yourself, nor allowing it in them, but correct them severely, and promptly, if they should attain that vice. On sunday, send the children up neat, and clean in their persons, and make them read a portion of the scriptures, or read to them yourself, and if you have not the advantage of sufficient instruction, get some one that can, to do it: as must be done with this little work: you are going among a moral set of people, and if your conduct be not also moral, you will be despised. Be diligent in your work, and you will soon become respected and prosperous: and lastly, and with this advice, I take leave of you, referring you, for your future government, to Mr. Cobbett's excellent treatise for persons settling in America. Never under any circumstances get in debt.

A few directions to persons leaving Quebec, for Upper Canada.

When arrived at Quebec, if it is your intention to go up the country, you must look out for the first steam boat that goes, and if possible, before you leave the ship; so that you may avoid the expence of bringing your family in there, for such will cost you dearly; and, if you are short of funds, may perhaps place you in a state of distress, that may prevent your carrying, your original plan, into effect: your attention to what I have said, about making yourself useful on board, will, in all probability, preserve you the favour of remaining on board, till you engage your passage in the steamer, which will be a good return for any thing you do, on board the ship.

Your passage up to Montreal, will cost you 7s. 6d. that is, a dollar and a half, per head, taking two children for one adult; this is the usual charge; but if you work well, you may get off for less; and mind! in any bargain you make, take care that your luggage is included *free*. When arrived at Montreal, you will be put on shore on the public wharf; and now observe! that as, in all probability, you will have to quit the steamer, and land with all your luggage, before you can have time to arrange about your passage up, you must take care to place every thing you have, close together, and let your wife, and children, seat themselves on it; and never quit it, till you are ready to take it away; or depend on it, you will lose many of, perhaps, your most useful articles;

this precaution is also necessary, from the moment you leave the ship at Quebec: you cannot be too vigilant. When landed at Montreal, go directly to the Canada Company office, and the gentlemen there will direct you to a respectable forwarder, (that is, a person who undertakes to carry goods and passengers up the country). I employed Messrs. Link and Co. and they have a very fine warehouse, large and roomy, where you will be received with your goods, free of expence, from the steam boat, and comfortably housed, till a boat is ready. The charge is 6s. 3d. per head (two children for one,) and 3s. 6d. per head for your luggage, you will therefore mind what I have before said, on this subject. The passage up the river, and through the rapids, is very tedious,* and, for your own sake, you must, on all occasions, assist the boatmen, in loading, and unloading the boat, when required. By this conveyance you will be carried to Prescot, from whence you take steam again, up to York, passing in your way several villages, where provisions may be obtained; the boat stops at one of these places at night generally, and you will, if it be required, be able to engage a room to sleep your family very cheap. When a large party are together, they commonly get housed in a barn, which is seldom charged for, and may probably have offers of employment. But I recommend every man, who has no particular connexion to join, to go out under the influence of the Canada Company, by which he will be more likely to find permanent employment. The number of persons that have lately settled on the Company's lands, enables you to choose a decent neighbourhood, and where you may settle with safety, and have the advice, if not the assistance, of those who have located before you; and thus, you will be enabled to commence, your earliest operations, with comparative ease. If you have any funds, beyond what you require for your use, in embarking from England, I recommend you to deposit it with the Company who will give you a bill on their agents, at the place where you are going, and if you purchase land of the Company, this, and other services will be rendered you free of *expence*. This was the plan that I pursued, and when my party received the amount of their orders at York, they felt very grateful, inasmuch as they had escaped the temptation to spend it, as they very likely would have done, at some period of their voyage, if they had had it in their possesion.

* *On any future occasion the tediousness of this part of the journey will be avoided by passing through the Rideau Canal.* See *Letters, p.* 65, *and extract from Canadian Courant about the new Steamer, p.* 67.

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